

PRIMARY SCHOOL—THESSERY

210. Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Will Government be pleased to state (a) when the aided Malayalam Primary School at Thessery near Kodakara was started;

(b) is this school getting any aid;

(c) is not this locality educationally very backward?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): (a) On 21st Edavam 1115.

(b) No.

(c) Yes.

KUNNAMKULAM GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL—APPOINTMENT OF TEACHER

211. Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether there was any teacher in one of the divisions in the 1st Form of the Girls' High School, Kunnamkulam, from the re-opening of the school in June 1943 after the mid-summer vacation;

(b) if so, for how many days;

(c) the dates of the joining and relieving of the teacher;

(d) the period for which that teacher was appointed by the Staff Selection Board;

(e) the school to which that teacher was transferred?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): (a) Yes.

(b) For 11 days from 30th Thulam 1119 and continuously from 8th Dhanu 1119.

(c) Joined on 30th Thulam 1119 and relieved on 10th Vrischigam 1119. Another teacher joined on 8th Dhanu 1119.

(d) 25th Kanni 1119 to 30th Thulam 1119; the vacancy was subsequently extended.

(e) To High School, Kandassankadavu.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): May I know the reason for having a teacher from the re-opening of the school up to the 30th of Thulam, only for 11 days in that class?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): What happened was this vacancy was created by the grant of leave to a lady teacher who applied for leave some days after the re-opening and as the leave had to be granted for medical reasons it was granted. It was for less than a month and under the rules we cannot ask for a substitute when the period of leave is less than a month. So it was not reported. Subsequently we discovered that this teacher has been applying for piece-meal extensions of leave and when this was discovered she was told that she would not be granted further extensions of leave unless it was taken in one stretch. Then she extended for two months. A substitute was appointed. The hon'ble members will find that in that period also comes the Christmas vacation. As soon as it was reported, another was appointed. She took some time to join and there was a vacancy for a mathematics teacher at the High School, Kandassankadavu. The person who was appointed happened to be a mathematics graduate and her services were requisitioned. We reported the matter to Government and another was immediately appointed. She took about 15 days to join.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): On the whole that class had no teacher except for 20 days.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): That is true.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Are there not several other classes in the same school without a teacher in the same period?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): I want notice. It so happens on account of the present leave rules. The difficulty is all the more when people do not realise the importance of public service. A person applies for leave for 20 days. We cannot apply for a substitute under the rules. Subsequently he extends the leave. Then also there is no possibility of applying for a substitute. When such things are discovered we immediately say that we cannot grant leave without appointing a substitute. There are only rare instances that are taking place contingent on the grant of leave piece-meal.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): May I know, Sir, whether in the opinion of the Government the Working of the Staff Selection Board has anything to do with this unhealthy state of affairs?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): This has nothing to do with the Staff Selection Board at all. It has a great deal to do with the teacher who applies for piece-meal leave.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): May I know, Sir, whether the permanent incumbent that joined duty on the 8th Dhanu or a substitute?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): It is the substitute.